

CLAIMS

1. A beverage that contains a preservative system comprising 1
to 175 ppm cinnamic acid, 10 to 200 ppm sorbic acid or
5 benzoic acid, and at least one essential oil other than
cinnamic acid.
2. A beverage according to claim 1 wherein the essential oil is
selected from the group consisting of benzyl-4-
10 hydroxybenzoate, 4-tert-butylcyclohexanone, carvone,
cinnamaldehyde, citral, citral dimethyl acetal, citronellol,
cumic alcohol, cyclohexanebutyric acid, 2-cyclohexylethyl
acetate, trans,trans-2,4-decadienal, decanal, decanol,
dihydrocarveol, 3,7-dimethyl-1-octanol, ethyl
15 cyclohexanepropionate, ethyl pyruvate, ethyl vanillin,
jasmane, o-methoxycinnamaldehyde, methyl anthranilate, α -
methyl-trans-cinnamaldehyde, methyl eugenol, methyl
nonanoate, 2-methyl-2-pentenal, 5-methyl-2-phenyl-2-hexenal,
methyl salicylate, 4-methyl-5-thiazoleethanol acetate,
20 myrtenol, neomenthol, nonanoic acid, γ -nonanoic lactone, δ -
octalactone, octanoic acid (caprylic), 1-octanol, 1-phenyl-
1,2-propanedione, piperonyl acetate, propyl benzoate,
pulegone, sorbic aldehyde (2,4-hexadienal), terpinen-4-ol,
tolualdehyde, γ -undecalactone, undecanal, 1-undecanol, and
25 vanillin.
3. A beverage according to claim 2 wherein the essential oil is
selected from the group consisting of citral, citral
dimethyl acetal, cumic alcohol (isopropylbenzyl alcohol),
30 trans,trans-2,4-decadienal, 3,7-dimethyl-1-octanol, ethyl
pyruvate, myrtenol and piperonyl acetate.
4. A beverage according to claim 1 wherein the preservative
system contains 50 to 150 ppm sorbic acid.

5. A beverage according to claim 1 wherein the preservative system contains 50 to 150 ppm benzoic acid.
- 5 6. A beverage according to claim 1 wherein the preservative system contains 1 to 100 ppm of one or more of the essential oils.
7. A beverage according to claim 1 wherein the beverage is a tea based beverage.
- 10 8. A beverage according to claim 7 wherein the beverage contains 0.01 to 3% tea solids.
- 15 9. *9.24* A beverage according to claim 1 wherein the preservative system comprises 1 to 30 ppm cinnamic acid, 50 to 150 ppm sorbic acid, 1 to 30 ppm citral dimethyl acetal, 1 to 40 ppm cumic alcohol, and 1 to 20 myrtenol and piperonyl acetate.
- 20 10. A method for preparing an ambient-stable tea based beverage suitable for cold filing comprising preserving a tea extract with a preservative system comprising 1 to 175 ppm cinnamic acid, 10 to 200 ppm sorbic acid or benzoic acid, and at least one essential oil other than cinnamic acid.